Remarks:

Applicant has carefully studied the non-final Examiner's Action mailed 08/04/2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire 10/04/2004. The amendment appearing above and these explanatory remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Action. Accordingly, this important patent application is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicant responds to the outstanding Action by centered headings and numbered paragraphs that correspond to the centered headings and paragraph numbering employed by the Office, to ensure full response on the merits to each finding of the Office.

Specification

The specification stands objected to because "base 110" in paragraph [0079] should be "bowl 110," and because "jug 102" in paragraph [0079] should be "container 102" to provide antecedent basis for the terms "bowl" and "container" in claim 1. The specification is amended herewith.

The specification stands further objected to because the pending patent application referred to in paragraph [0002] is now a U.S. patent. The specification is amended herewith.

Drawings

The drawings stand objected to because the "flow control valve means having an elongate tapered stem secured to the control knob for conjoint rotation therewith, said elongate tapered stem extending through the first opening and said second opening and into said hollow seeping chamber" is not shown in the drawings. Accordingly, Fig. 14 is amended herewith.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claim 1.

Conclusion

Applicant agrees that the art made of record and not relied upon is not more pertinent to the claimed invention than the art cited.

If the Office is not fully persuaded as to the merits of Applicant's position, or if an Examiner's Amendment would place the pending claims in condition for allowance, a telephone call to the undersigned at (727) 507-8558 is requested. Applicant thanks the Office for its careful examination of this important patent application.

Very respectfully,

SMITH & HOPEN

Dated: October 1, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

(37 C.F.R. 1.10)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Amendment A, including Amendments to the Specification, Amendments to the Drawings, and Remarks, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing Label No. EV505918116US, addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 1, 2004.

Dated: October 1, 2004

Deborah Preza

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawing pages include the following:

Replacement Sheets

Annotated Marked-up Drawings.

Application No. 10/707,448
Amendment dated October1, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed August 4, 2004
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

